DEPARTMENT OF RY AND RANS AFFAIRS



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The **Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**, also known as the state military establishment, has 3 primary missions: to execute the duties laid down by various statutes and the governor, administration of state-supported veterans programming, and military preparedness to assist both state and federal authorities. The Michigan Army and Air National Guard constitute the armed forces of the state and serve under the orders of the governor as commander-in-chief. The governor appoints an adjutant general to serve as commanding general of the Michigan National Guard and as director of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

The Michigan Army and Air National Guard have a mission to both the federal government and the State of Michigan.

The primary military mission of the department is to recruit, train, and maintain the Michigan Army and Air National Guard as reserve components of the United States Army and Air Force for **federal mobilization**. Since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, approximately 65 percent of the Michigan National Guard soldiers and airmen have been called to duty in support of Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom. Michigan Guard men and women have served in a number of locations from the International Bridge in Sault Ste. Marie and the Detroit Metro Airport to Southwest Asia, Iraq, Bosnia, and Cuba.

The state military mission of the department is to train and maintain National Guard forces for the protection of life and property of Michigan citizens in natural disasters and the preservation of peace, order, and public safety. Within minutes of the terrorists' attacks, F-16s from the Selfridge Air National Guard base were in position to respond to any follow-up attacks that may have occurred in Michigan. In the spring of 2002, National Guard engineers responded to massive flooding in the Upper Peninsula. In early 2003, Michigan's weapons of mass destruction civil support team became fully qualified to support first responders during a WMD or catastrophic hazardous material incident. The Guard played a critical role during the massive power blackout in August of 2003.

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs provides support services for approximately 11,000 military personnel constituting the Michigan National Guard. Approximately 3,000 full-time employees (state and federal) are assigned to various divisions, sections, and units located in Lansing; at 50 armories across the state; 3 air bases (Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center, and Battle Creek Air National Guard Base): 19 maintenance shops; the 146,000-acre military reservation at Camp Grayling; and the 7,500-acre Fort Custer Training Center in Battle Creek.

Support services include the construction and maintenance of armories; receipt, storage, and distribution of all supplies, materials, and equipment used by National Guard units; repair and maintenance of military vehicles and equipment; processing of military and civilian payrolls; preparation of state and federal budgets; maintenance of detailed records of all military personnel; arranging for and executing training programs; operation of a regional training institute; management of all real and personal properties of the department; and operation and maintenance of Camp Grayling, Fort Custer Training Center, and the 3 Air National Guard bases.

The Assistant Adjutant General for **Homeland Security** acts as the chief advisor to the governor, the Adjutant General, Director of the State Police and other department directors and agency heads regarding the development of policies, programs and procedures to protect, enhance and manage Michigan's homeland security. The Assistant Adjutant General for Homeland Security acts as the governor's liaison with all state, provincial, local, tribal, and federal agencies as well as private entities to develop and coordinate the implementation of a comprehensive state strategy to secure the State of Michigan from terrorist threats or attacks.

The department, through the **Veterans Affairs Directorate**, provides executive oversight and coordination for state veterans programming. Operations encompass the Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti (Marquette) Veterans Homes, the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund and administration of annual legislative grants to veterans service organizations to help their service officers assist veterans in processing claims with the federal government. In the aggregate, veterans service programming accounts for approximately 61 percent of the department's annual state budget (FY 2005) of nearly \$111 million.

The department provides administrative support to the State Military Board, the Military Appeals Tribunal, the Veterans' Homes of Michigan Board of Managers, the Michigan Veterans' Trust Fund Board of Trustees, and the Michigan Vietnam Veterans Memorial Monument Fund Commission.

MILITARY APPEALS TRIBUNAL

	Term expires
COL. MICHAEL V. MARSTON, Grosse Pointe Farms	. Apr. 16, 2004
CHARLES PALMER, Bath	. Apr. 16, 2003
STEPHEN PEREIRA, West Bloomfield	. Apr. 16, 2003
COL. RALPH O. WILBUR, Hastings	. Apr. 16, 2004
MICHAEL ZEHNDER, Troy	. Apr. 16, 2006

The **Military Appeals Tribunal** was created by Act 523 of 1980. The 5 members of the tribunal are appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, to serve 4-year terms. Upon expiration of a term, a member may continue to serve until a successor is appointed. A person is eligible for appointment to the Military Appeals Tribunal if the person is a commissioned officer in the Michigan National Guard or a civilian and licensed to practice law in Michigan.

The tribunal has appellate jurisdiction, upon petition of the accused National Guard service member, to hear and review his or her record in all decisions of a court martial, under the Michigan Code of Military Justice. The tribunal sits as a panel of 3 members with the concurrence of 2 members necessary for a decision.

MICHIGAN VETERANS' FACILITY BOARD OF MANAGERS

Veterans of Foreign Wars	Term expires	
Dale J. Brubaker, Livonia	. Feb. 28, 2005	
RICHARD "CHIC" LAFAVE, Gwinn	. Feb. 28, 2008	
American Legion		
WILLARD F. COFFEY, L'Anse	. Feb. 28, 2007	
F. Gerrit Veldman, Lansing	. Feb. 28, 2007	

MICHIGAN VETERANS' FACILITY BOARD OF MANAGERS (Cont.)

Disabled American Veterans	Term expires	
HARVEY D. SLOTMAN, Holland	Feb. 28, 2009	
American Veterans of World War II-Korea-Vietnam		
JASPER T. McCain, Detroit	Feb. 28, 2009	
Veterans At-Large		
RUTH A. NEWMAN, Northville	Feb. 28, 2005	

The Veterans' Homes of Michigan Board of Managers was created by Act 152 of 1885. Executive Order No. 1991-7 transferred the board from the Department of Public Health to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, effective September 1, 1991. The veterans' homes provide both domiciliary and long-term nursing care for Michigan residents who were on active duty in the armed forces of the United States during a period of war. The Board of Managers exercises certain regulatory and governance authority regarding admission and member affairs, in addition to representing the interests of the veterans' community in both advisory and advocacy roles. Michigan's 2 facilities are the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans and the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans in Marquette.

The 7 board members are appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, to serve 6-year terms. Upon expiration of a term, a member may continue to serve until a successor is appointed.

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MICHIGAN VETERANS' TRUST FUND **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

American Legion	Term expires	
James L. Lane, St. Helen	. Feb. 25, 2006	
Arnold W. Zeile, Lansing	. Feb. 25, 2007	
Veterans of Foreign Wars		
RONALD L. AMEND, Reese	. Feb. 25, 2006	
James R. Pintar, Painesdale	. Feb. 25, 2007	
Disabled American Veterans		
THOMAS TOMLINSON, St. Clair Shores	. Feb. 25, 2005	
American Veterans of World War II-Korea-Vietnam		
EDWARD J. FLORENCE, Jr., Southfield	. Feb. 25, 2005	
Vietnam Veterans of America		
Sandra Wilson, Saline	. Feb. 25, 2005	

The Michigan Veterans' Trust Fund Board of Trustees was created by Act 9 of the First Extra Session of 1946 to provide temporary financial assistance from the earnings of the fund to veterans and their dependents for emergency and educational purposes. Executive Order No. 1995-15 transferred the fund from the Department of Management and Budget to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

The program, through county committees, dispenses grants to veterans, dependents, or survivors to relieve financial crises or hardship and secures shelter, food, medical treatment, clothing, and other needs when an applicant is placed in jeopardy by circumstances generally beyond his or her control. Other functions include dispensing tuition grants to children of 100% disabled or killed in service veterans (Act 245 of 1935, MCL 35.111) and maintaining military records of the state's veterans.

The 7 members of the board are appointed by the governor to serve 3-year terms. Upon expiration of a term, a member may continue to serve until a successor is appointed.

The map below depicts the location of Michigan armories, training sites, and air bases.

The chart that follows the map indicates the National Guard units, their locations, and the total number of personnel authorized in the Air and Army National Guard.

ARMORIES, TRAINING SITES, AND AIR BASES

